

## Union Calendar No.

110<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION**H. R. 415****[Report No. 110-]**

To amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Taunton River in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

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**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

JANUARY 11, 2007

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts (for himself and Mr. MCGOVERN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

JULY --, 2008

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on January 11, 2007]

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**A BILL**

To amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Taunton River in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF TAUNTON RIVER, MASSACHU-**  
2 **SETTS.**

3 *Section 3(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16*  
4 *U.S.C. 1274(a)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-*  
5 *lowing:*

6 “(\_\_\_\_) TAUNTON RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS.—*The*  
7 *main stem of the Taunton River from its headwaters at*  
8 *the confluence of the Town and Matfield Rivers in the Town*  
9 *of Bridgewater downstream 40 miles to the confluence with*  
10 *the Quequechan River at the Route 195 Bridge in the City*  
11 *of Fall River, to be administered by the Secretary of the*  
12 *Interior in cooperation with the Taunton River Steward-*  
13 *ship Council as follows:*

14 “(A) *The 18-mile segment from the confluence of*  
15 *the Town and Matfield Rivers to Route 24 in the*  
16 *Town of Raynham, as a scenic river.*

17 “(B) *The 5-mile segment from Route 24 to 0.5*  
18 *miles below Weir Bridge in the City of Taunton, as*  
19 *a recreational river.*

20 “(C) *The 8-mile segment from 0.5 miles below*  
21 *Weir Bridge to Muddy Cove in the Town of Dighton,*  
22 *as a scenic river.*

23 “(D) *The 9-mile segment from Muddy Cove to*  
24 *the confluence with the Quequechan River at the*  
25 *Route 195 Bridge in the City of Fall River, as a rec-*  
26 *reational river.”.*

1 **SEC. 2. MANAGEMENT OF TAUNTON RIVER, MASSACHU-**  
2 **SETTS.**

3 (a) *TAUNTON RIVER STEWARDSHIP PLAN.*—

4 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*Each river segment added to*  
5 *section 3(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act by sec-*  
6 *tion 1 of this Act shall be managed in accordance*  
7 *with the Taunton River Stewardship Plan, dated*  
8 *July 2005 (including any amendment to the Taunton*  
9 *River Stewardship Plan that the Secretary of the In-*  
10 *terior (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”)*  
11 *determines to be consistent with this Act).*

12 (2) *EFFECT.*—*The Taunton River Stewardship*  
13 *Plan described in paragraph (1) shall be considered*  
14 *to satisfy each requirement relating to the comprehen-*  
15 *sive management plan required under section 3(d) of*  
16 *the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1274(d)).*

17 (b) *COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.*—*To provide for the*  
18 *long-term protection, preservation, and enhancement of*  
19 *each river segment added to section 3(a) of the Wild and*  
20 *Scenic Rivers Act by section 1 of this Act, pursuant to sec-*  
21 *tions 10(e) and 11(b)(1) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act*  
22 *(16 U.S.C. 1281(e) and 1282(b)(1)), the Secretary may*  
23 *enter into cooperative agreements (which may include pro-*  
24 *visions for financial and other assistance) with—*

1           (1) *the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (includ-*  
2           *ing political subdivisions of the Commonwealth of*  
3           *Massachusetts);*

4           (2) *the Taunton River Stewardship Council; and*

5           (3) *any appropriate nonprofit organization, as*  
6           *determined by the Secretary.*

7           (c) *RELATION TO NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM.—Notwith-*  
8           *standing section 10(c) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act*  
9           *(16 U.S.C. 1281(c)), each river segment added to section*  
10          *3(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act by section 1 of this*  
11          *Act shall not be—*

12          (1) *administered as a unit of the National Park*  
13          *System; or*

14          (2) *subject to the laws (including regulations)*  
15          *that govern the administration of the National Park*  
16          *System.*

17          (d) *LAND MANAGEMENT.—*

18          (1) *ZONING ORDINANCES.—The zoning ordi-*  
19          *nances adopted by the Towns of Bridgewater, Hali-*  
20          *fax, Middleborough, Raynham, Berkley, Dighton,*  
21          *Freetown, and Somerset, and the Cities of Taunton*  
22          *and Fall River, Massachusetts (including any provi-*  
23          *sion of the zoning ordinances relating to the conserva-*  
24          *tion of floodplains, wetlands, and watercourses associ-*  
25          *ated with any river segment added to section 3(a) of*

1       *the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act by section 1 of this*  
2       *Act), shall be considered to satisfy each standard and*  
3       *requirement described in section 6(c) of the Wild and*  
4       *Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1277(c)).*

5           (2) *VILLAGES.—For the purpose of section 6(c)*  
6       *of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C.*  
7       *1277(c)), each town described in paragraph (1) shall*  
8       *be considered to be a village.*

9           (3) *ACQUISITION OF LAND.—*

10           (A) *LIMITATION OF AUTHORITY OF SEC-*  
11       *RETARY.—With respect to each river segment*  
12       *added to section 3(a) of the Wild and Scenic*  
13       *Rivers Act by section 1 of this Act, the Secretary*  
14       *may only acquire parcels of land—*

15                   (i) *by donation; or*

16                   (ii) *with the consent of the owner of the*  
17       *parcel of land.*

18           (B) *PROHIBITION RELATING TO ACQUI-*  
19       *SITION OF LAND BY CONDEMNATION.—In accord-*  
20       *ance with section 6(c) of the Wild and Scenic*  
21       *Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1277(c)), with respect to*  
22       *each river segment added to section 3(a) of the*  
23       *Wild and Scenic Rivers Act by section 1 of this*  
24       *Act, the Secretary may not acquire any parcel of*  
25       *land by condemnation.*